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(54) Title: FRAME FOR SUPPORTING A FILTER MEMBRANE

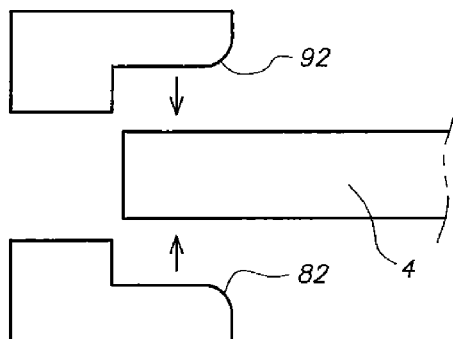


FIG. 17

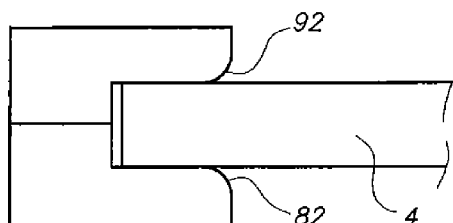


FIG. 18

(57) Abstract: A filter element comprising (i) an integrated permeate channel membrane (4) which has a flexible structure and comprises an upper and lower membrane layer and a substrate material for supporting said membrane layers, wherein said substrate is a 3D spacer fabric having an upper and a lower fabric surface, tied together and spaced apart by monofilament threads at a predefined distance and (ii) a frame system supporting said membrane and sealing said integrated permeate channel at the edge of the membrane, said frame system comprising a first frame profile and a second frame profile each of them having form and dimensions capable of surrounding the membrane, wherein each of said first and second frame profile has inner parts and outer parts wherein said membrane (4) is interposed between said first frame profile and said second frame profile. A filter module comprising a plurality of filter elements is also provided.



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